

36th Engineer Brigade Welcomes New Command Sergeant Major - 8 Apr

The 36th Engineer Brigade welcomes new leadership during a change-of-responsibility ceremony April 8th at Ft. Hood.

Command Sergeant Major Frank Busch relinquished responsibility of the brigade to Command Sergeant Major Terrence Murphy, passing the leadership responsibilities and duties of the senior non-commissioned officer of the unit.

After changing responsibilities as represented by the passing of the NCO sword, Murphy told the audience that he was honored to have the opportunity to serve as the senior non-commissioned officer of the brigade and be part of a unit with such a distinguished history.

Both Busch and Murphy came to the 36th Engineer Brigade from the 20th Engineer Battalion a subordinate unit of the 36th, having each served as the battalion's Command Sergeant Major for over 36 months.

Busch is retiring after 27 years of service to the Army and nation.

During the ceremony, the leadership conducted a traditional troop review, with both the 8th and 62nd Engineer Battalion's colors cased to symbolize their current deployments to OIF and OEF respectively. The 36th Engineer Brigade is currently composed of six Engineer Battalions, the 2nd stationed at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, the 8th currently deployed to OIF, the 20th stationed at Fort Hood, Texas the 62nd currently deployed to OEF, the 11th stationed at Fort Benning, Georgia, and the 92nd stationed at Fort Stewart, Georgia.

COL Savre took a minute to quote the brigade's mission, "It is the mission of the 36th Engineer Brigade to train, integrate, and project modular engineer forces in order to provide engineer battle command and sustained full-spectrum engineering in support of joint or combined military operations."

After passing the NCO Sword and responsibilities to Murphy, COL Savre, the brigade's commander recounted the successes of the brigade under Busch during their ongoing combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan by saying, "the accomplishments of the Soldiers of the 36th Engineer Brigade over the nearly three years under the leadership of Command Sergeant Major Busch are astounding, and are a tribute to the dedication and selfless service of these fine Soldiers on parade today, the many they represent, and their professional leaders." He then welcomed Murphy and his Family into the brigade.

"Be proud of all you have accomplished and the care you took of Soldiers and Families. Know that we could not have asked for more from you as you kept the Rugged Brigade at the highest standards in peace and war," he said.

CSM Busch commented as well, saying, "To the officers, noncommissioned officers, and troopers, it has been my honor and privilege to serve as your Command Sergeant Major. I retire knowing that I have served with the best and brightest group of Soldiers I have ever seen. . . . Stay strong and most of all Stay Rugged."

BG Atkinson, III Corps and Fort Hood Deputy Commander attended the ceremony and thanked Busch for his years of service and also congratulated Murphy on his appointment. Atkinson presented Busch with the Legion of Merit Award, Silver De Fleury Award, and his certificate of retirement and flag prior to the ceremony.

Mrs. Debbie Busch was also recognized for her support and service to the nation. She was presented the Yellow Rose of Texas and a DA Certificate of Appreciation for her years of volunteer work for numerous FRGs, the ACS at the women's friendship center, for starting the group Helping Unite Gold Star Survivors in 2003, and for the creation of the Bereavement Support Office, which is now under consideration for adoption into Army policy.



(Left to Right) CSM Murphy, CSM Busch, COL Savre review the Rugged Soldiers



(Left to Right) SFC Blanco, SFC Lewis, CSM Busch, SGM Queen, SGM Denson stand in formation as the Change of Responsibility ceremony begins



(Left to Right) COL Savre and CSM Busch perform the time honored tradition of passing the NCO Sword between each other signifying the change of responsibility



(Left to Right) COL Savre passes the sword to CSM Murphy, the incoming CSM



(Left to Right) CSM Murphy, SFC Lewis, SGM Queen, SGM Denson stand in formation as the Change of Responsibility ceremony comes to a close



(Left to Right) BG Atkinson congratulates CSM Busch for a job well done after the ceremony